

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of input ports that receive signals from a plurality of external devices;

a plurality of output ports that transmit ~~control signals~~₁ to said plurality of external devices,
control signals for controlling the operation of said plurality of external devices, said control signals
being non-audio signals;

a plurality of input channels to which audio signals are inputted from the external devices;

a plurality of operating elements associated with respective ones of said input channels;

an input patch that sets connections between said input ports and said input channels;

setting means for setting one-to-one correspondence between said input ports and said
output ports; and

transmission control means that performs, when any of said operating elements is operated,
control such that the control signal is transmitted from the output port that correspond to the input
port connected to the input channel that ~~correspond~~ corresponds to the operated operating element.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A signal processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said input patch is capable of changing the connections between said input ports and
said input channels.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): A signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a display that displays a screen for prompting an output setting for each of said input ports.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of input ports that receive audio signals from a plurality of external devices;

a plurality of output ports that transmit ~~control signals~~, to said plurality of external devices, control signals for controlling the operation of said plurality of external devices, the control signals being non-audio signals;

a plurality of input channels to which audio signals are respectively inputted from the external devices associated with respective ones of said input ports;

a plurality of operating elements associated with respective ones of said input channels;

an input patch that sets connections between said input ports and said input channels;

setting means for setting at least one of first one-to-one correspondence between said input ports and said output ports and second one-to-one correspondence between said input channels and said output ports ;

a mode setting device that selectively sets either one of a first mode in which one of the output ports from which the control signal is to be transmitted is determined on an input port basis and a second mode in which one of the output ports from which the control signal is to be transmitted is determined on an input channel basis; and

transmission control means that performs, when any of said operating elements is operated in a state where the first mode is set, control such that the control signal is transmitted from the

output port which is made to correspond to the input port connected to the input channel corresponding to the operated operating elements, said transmission control means performing, when any of said operating elements is operated in a state where the second mode is set, control such that the control signal is transmitted from the output port which is made to correspond to the input channel corresponding to the operated operating element.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): A signal processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a display that displays a screen,

wherein the display displays a screen for prompting an output setting for each of the input ports if said mode setting device sets the first mode, and displays a screen for prompting an output setting for each of the input channels if said mode setting device sets the second mode.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing a control program executable by a computer to control a signal processing apparatus comprising a plurality of input ports that receive audio signals from a plurality of external devices, a plurality of output ports that ~~transmit control signals to said plurality of external devices;~~, to said plurality of external devices, non-audio control signals for controlling the operation of said plurality of external devices, a plurality of input channels to which signals are inputted from the external devices, and a plurality of operating elements associated with respective ones of said input channels, the program causing the computer to perform the steps of:

setting connections between said input ports and said input channels;

setting one-to-one correspondence between the input ports and the output ports; and

performing, when any of said operating elements is operated, control such that the non-audio control signal is transmitted from the output port that corresponds to the input port connected to the input channel that corresponds to the operated operating element.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing a control program executable by a computer to control a signal processing apparatus comprising a plurality of input ports that receive audio signals from a plurality of external devices, a plurality of output ports that ~~transmit control signals,~~ to said plurality of external devices, non-audio control signals for controlling the operation of said plurality of external devices, a plurality of input channels to which signals are respectively inputted from the external devices associated with respective ones of said input ports, and a plurality of operating elements associated with respective ones of said input channels, the program causing the computer to perform the steps of:

setting connections between said input ports and said input channels;

setting at least one of first one-to-one correspondence between said input ports and said output ports and second one-to-one correspondence between said input channels and said output ports;

selectively setting either one of a first mode in which one of the output ports from which the non-audio control signal is to be transmitted is determined on an input port basis and a second mode in which one of the output ports from which the non-audio control signal is to be transmitted is determined on an input channel basis;

performing, when any of said operating elements is operated in a state where the first mode is set, control such that the non-audio control signal is transmitted from the output port which is made to correspond to the input port connected to the input channel corresponding to the operated operating elements; and

when any of said operating elements is operated in a state where the second mode is set, transmitting non-audio control signal from the output port which is made to correspond to the input channel corresponding to the operated operating element.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

input port selecting means that selects the input port connected to the input channel corresponding to the operated operating element.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

input port selecting means that selects the input port connected to the input channel corresponding to the operating element operated in a state that the first mode is set; and

input channel selecting means that selects the input channel corresponding to the operating element operated in a state that the second mode is set.

Claim 12 (new): A signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control signal is comprised of one of a fader-on event and a fader-off event.

Claim 13 (new): A signal processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the control signal is comprised of one of a fader-on event and a fader-off event.

Claim 14 (new): A computer-readable medium according to claim 8, wherein the control signal is comprised of one of a fader-on event and a fader-off event.

Claim 15 (new): A computer-readable medium according to claim 9, wherein the control signal is comprised of one of a fader-on event and a fader-off event.